

CLAIM Amendments:

Cancel Claims 10-16 of record, and

substitute Claim 17 and 18 (text of these active claims below).

Listing of Claims Status

Claim 1-16(Canceled)

Claim 17(currently amended/substituted for cancelled claim 10),

Claim 18 (new/substitution for cancelled left-looking claim)

Claim 17 (substitution for Claim 10): A back-up mirror system to improve safety when a driver begins driving a passenger vehicle in reverse into a lane of cross-traffic, comprising:

- (a) a passenger vehicle, including a driver's side and a passenger side, said sides include doors, a rear bumper fixed at the rear end of said vehicle, a passenger compartment, a driver's seat, ~~a second seating row's seatbacks fixed twelve or more inches forward of said rear end~~, a window at the rear of said passenger compartment, and
- (b) a rear-view mirror consisting of a single optical element physically positioned with mounting means inside said passenger compartment in a location generally in front of said driver's seat row, said rear-view mirror's reflecting surface generally lying in a substantially vertical plane and which reflecting surface faces generally toward the aft of said vehicle lying in a plane substantially parallel with said rear bumper, and
- (c) a back-up mirror consisting of a single optical element physically positioned with mounting means inside said passenger compartment at a location aft of said driver's seat row, said location also lying ~~nine or more inches~~ enough forward of said rear end so that a ray emanating from a rear bumper of an adjacent obstruction(4) towards said back-up mirror position is blocked by said vehicle(21) itself, said location also generally against a non-door surface of said passenger compartment's driver's side, said back-up mirror's

reflecting surface ~~generally~~ lying in a substantially vertical plane, and which plane is also generally parallel with a ~~side of~~ said vehicle's sides,

all of whose relative physical locations and reflecting relationships form a physical structure wherein an image of

a nearby oncoming cross-traffic object approaching from said passenger side and traveling in a lane of cross-traffic crossing behind said vehicle and still located 10 to 60 feet away from said vehicle's rear end

arrives at said driver's seat region via said rear-view mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image,

whereby a driver sees a view of said nearby oncoming cross-traffic object, which information is needed at the moment of deciding the safety of driving said vehicle in reverse into said lane of cross-traffic, whereby a collision can be better avoided, whereby the back-up mirror element does not substantially obstruct existing rear-views through said window at the rear of said passenger compartment.

Claim 18 (new/amending cancelled claim 10): A back-up mirror system to improve safety when a driver begins driving a passenger vehicle in reverse into a lane of cross-traffic, comprising:

- (a) a passenger vehicle, including a driver's side and a passenger side, said sides include doors, a rear bumper fixed at the rear end of said vehicle, a passenger compartment, a driver's seat, ~~a second seating row's seatbacks fixed twelve or more inches forward of said rear end~~, a window at the rear of said passenger compartment, and

- (b) a rear-view mirror consisting of a single optical element physically positioned with mounting means inside said passenger compartment in a location generally in front of said driver's seat row, said rear-view mirror's reflecting surface generally lying in a substantially vertical plane and which reflecting surface faces generally toward the aft of said vehicle lying in a plane substantially parallel with said rear bumper, and
- (c) a back-up mirror consisting of a single optical element physically positioned with mounting means inside said passenger compartment at a location aft of said driver's seat row, said location also lying ~~nine or more inches~~ enough forward of said rear end so that a ray emanating from a rear bumper of an adjacent obstruction(4) parked alongside the driver's-side of said vehicle towards said back-up mirror position is blocked by said vehicle(21) itself, said location also generally against a non-door surface of said passenger compartment's passenger side, said back-up mirror's reflecting surface ~~generally~~ lying in a substantially vertical plane, and which plane is also generally parallel with a ~~side of~~ said vehicle's sides,

all of whose relative physical locations and reflecting relationships form a physical structure wherein an image of

a nearby oncoming cross-traffic object approaching from said driver's side and traveling in a lane of cross-traffic crossing behind said vehicle ~~and still located 10 to 60 feet away from said vehicle's rear end~~

arrives at said driver's seat region via said rear-view mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image,

whereby a driver sees a view of said nearby oncoming cross-traffic object, which information is needed at the moment of deciding the safety of driving said vehicle in reverse into said lane of cross-traffic, whereby a collision can be better avoided, whereby the back-up mirror element does not substantially obstruct existing rear-views through said window at the rear of said passenger compartment.

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